

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
February 11, 2004**

A quorum being present, the Chairman convened the meeting at 7:34 p.m. at Park Authority Headquarters, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

Members Present:

Winifred S. Shapiro, Chairman ¹
Gilbert S. McCutcheon, Vice Chairman
Jennifer E. Heinz, Secretary-Treasurer ²
Harold L. Strickland
Joanne E. Malone
Kenneth G. Feng
Frank S. Vajda
Kevin J. Fay ³
Edward R. Batten, Sr. ⁴
Georgette Kohler
George Lovelace

Guests:

Carl Bouchard, DPW&ES
Robert A. Stalzer, Assistant County Executive
Martha Reed, DMB
Len Wales, Debt Service Manager
David Jillson, Planning and Zoning

Staff Present:

Michael A. Kane, Director
Timothy K. White, Deputy Director
Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

Charlie Bittenbring
Brian Daly
Cindy Messinger
Miriam Morrison
Judy Pedersen
Lynn Tadlock
Seema Ajrawat
Angela Allen
Ed Ayscue
Kirk Holley
John Lehman
Heather Melchior
Doug Petersen
Michael Rierson
Kay Rutledge
Thaddeus Zavora
John Pitts

AGENDA CHANGES

Mr. McCutcheon asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. As there were no changes, Mr. McCutcheon announced that he would proceed with the Agenda. There were **NO OBJECTIONS** from the Park Authority Board.

¹ Mrs. Shapiro arrived @ 7:48 pm during the Watershed Management Program presentation

² Mrs. Heinz arrived @ 9:40 pm during the Closed Session Break

³ Mr. Fay arrived @ 8 p.m. during the Watershed Management Program presentation

⁴ Mr. Batten arrived @ 7:40 pm during the Watershed Management Program presentation

**MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004**

Swearing-In Ceremony

George Lovelace, was sworn-in as a Member-At-Large, by John Frey, Clerk to the Court.

Mr. McCutcheon welcomed Mr. Frey.

PRESENTATION**P-1 Watershed Management Program**

Mr. Carl Bouchard of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services presented an overview of the Watershed Management Plan Program. Discussion included the purpose of the plans, the plan development process and the status of the effort. The Park Authority is actively participating in the watershed management plan development process.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM**ADMIN-1. Adoption of Minutes - January 28, 2004, Park Authority Board Meetings**

Mr. Strickland **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board approve the minutes of the January 28, 2004, Park Authority Board meeting; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon. The MOTION was **APPROVED**, Messrs. Fay and Lovelace abstaining, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

ACTION ITEMS**A-1 Approval of the Interim Use Agreement with Potomac School to Use Langley Forks Park as a School Bus Transfer Site**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 4, 2004, and was approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mr. McCutcheon **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board approve the Interim Use Agreement with Potomac School to use Langley Forks Park as a school bus transfer site for a six-month period; **SECONDED** by Joanne Malone.

Kay Rutledge noted that the solicitor to the National Park Service (NPS) indicated that the agreement may be in conflict with Park Authority's special use permit with the NPS, as the special use permit states that it is for use for active outdoor recreation. The NPS is viewing the interim agreement with the Potomac School as temporary, and not in conflict, but NPS approval is not clear at this time.

MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004

Mr. Fay **MOVED to AMEND the MOTION** to read, "that the Park Authority Board approve the Interim Use Agreement with Potomac School to use Langley Forks Park as a school bus transfer site for a six-month period subject to the approval of the National Park Service;" the **MOTION** was **APPROVED as AMENDED**, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

A-2 Authorization to Hold a Public Meeting on the Proposed Master Plan Revision for Ossian Hall Park

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 4, 2004, and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mr. Strickland **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board authorize staff to hold a public meeting on the proposed master plan revision for Ossian Hall Park; **SECONDED** by Ms. Malone;

Mrs. Shapiro stated that the re-master planning of this park is being treated as a major element of the revitalization of the entire area in conjunction with the revitalization project in the larger Annandale business district.

Mr. Fay stated that he would like to see lighting guidelines established as to where lights are appropriate. He indicated that the Park Authority needs to do a better job of informing the public of where lights may be feasible on existing and new facilities. He feels very strongly that if lights are not initially put into the master plans, the agency will continue to revisit the issue over and over again, and it is not cost effective use of the agency's time or the tax payer's time. Mrs. Shapiro directed staff to place the issue of lighting on a future Planning and Development Committee agenda for discussion. The discussion should include how lighting should fit into the master planning process, if there should be a blanket policy about always considering lights when planning athletic fields, and how the Park Authority wants to deal with the issue.

After discussion Mrs. Shapiro called for the vote; the **MOTION** was **APPROVED**, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

FY 2005-2009 CIP PRESENTATION

Mike Kane introduced Deputy County Executive Rob Stalzer, Len Wales, the County's Debt Manager, Martha Reed from the Department of Management and Budget, and David Jillson from the Department of Planning and Zoning. Rob Stalzer discussed the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and discussed the recommended bond schedule for the next 10 years.

MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004

ACTION ITEMS (continued)**A-3 Capital Project Status**

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 4, 2004, and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Mike Kane noted that a revised item had been distributed to the Board as a result of discussions with Len Wales, County Debt Manager, regarding questions that arose during the Planning and Development Committee meeting on February 4, 2004, addressing how to utilize funding from the 2004 bond program in a cash flow sense to accomplish the project needs that the Park Authority has both with the existing workload projects in the work plan, and with the projects that were presented in the item that require additional funding--CLEMYJONTRI Park, Cub Run RECenter, Lake Accotink Park and the R. E. Lee RECenter. If the 2004 Bond Program passes, funding could be available immediately. However, if the bond program does not pass, the Board would have to reconsider the action to proceed with the projects in the current work plan.

Mr. Strickland **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board approve proceeding with the current Planning and Development Division Work Plan in order to complete critical projects at Cub Run RECenter, Lake Accotink Park, CLEMYJONTRI Park and R. E. Lee RECenter based on the availability of 2004 Park Bond funds in November 2004. Staff will proceed with all projects contained in the approved FY 2004- FY 2005 Planning and Development Division Work Plan and identify funding sources at the time of contract award for each project. If the 2004 Park Bond Program is not approved in November 2004, the Park Authority will reconsider this action in order to determine how best to proceed with the completion of the projects from the current Planning and Development Division Work Plan.; **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED**, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

A-4 Contract Award - Phase II Site Improvements at Towers Park

This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on February 4, 2004, and approved for submission to the Park Authority Board.

Ms. Malone **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board approve the contract award to Adler B. Stanley & Sons, Inc. of Fairfax, Virginia, in the amount of \$189,840 for construction of Phase II Site Improvements at Towers Park. In addition the Board also approved reserving \$18,984 or ten (10) percent of the contract award for contract contingency and \$11,390 or six (6) percent of the contract award for administrative costs. **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda; the **MOTION** was **APPROVED**, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

Mrs. Shapiro announced that she was going to retain the current committee chairs. She appointed Ken Feng to fill the vacant chair on the Budget Committee, and Frank Vajda to chair the Resource Management Committee. She asked the other members of the Board to let her know on which committees they may like to sit.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:

- **VA Parks and Recreation Magazine Cover Article on PA Program**

Mike Kane reported that the Winter 2004 edition of the Virginia Parks and Recreation magazine devoted its cover article to the Park Authority's soccer program for youth with disabilities and traumatic brain injury. This program was recognized by the magazine as the best new program for populations greater than 150,000. Soccer clinics were held in November and December at **Lee District RECenter** under the tutelage of U.S. Paralympic Soccer Team member Josh McKinney and **Jon McCullough**. **Josh** organized the clinics as part of a 10-week Park Authority internship funded by the **Park Foundation**. In the same edition, an article mentions the recent promotions of **Tim White** as Deputy Director of the Park Authority and **Brian Daly** as Director of Park Operations Division.

Mike also reported that the Park Authority's second director, Joe Brown, passed away on October 15, 2003, at the age of 85.

- **Board of Supervisors Upcoming Retreat**

Mike Kane advised the Board of the upcoming Board of Supervisors' retreat to be held February 13 and 14. A report will be presented by the Board on February 23.

Mike noted that he distributed a copy of Virginia's United Land Trusts (VaULT), *Heritage Virginia*, "Strategic Plan For the Conservation of the Commonwealth's Natural and Cultural Resources. Mike explained that the VaULT is an umbrella organization of land trust groups within the state. He also pointed out that a few former Park Authority friends and employees had contributed to the document: former director Bill Beckner; NVRPA Board member Jean Packard and Susan Cable, formerly with the Planning and Development Division.

BOARD MATTERS:

- Gil McCutcheon stated Supervisor Hyland's Town Meeting was very successful and thanked Tim White, Judy Pedersen, Roxanne Fraver, Kelly Davis, John Pitts, Lynn Tadlock, and Gail Wharton for their attendance.
- Hal Strickland thanked Mike Kane for participating in a tour of the "Sully Woodlands" (the Hunter-Hacor assemblage) with Supervisor Frey and himself. The tour lasted approximately 3-4 hours and visited about 1/3 of the area. Mr. Strickland suggested that

MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004

the Board members tour the property once the weather improves. Mrs. Shapiro asked Mr. Strickland to provide an update of how the title "Sully Woodlands" is being received by the people in the district.

- Joanne Malone reported that the open house for the Nottoway Park Master Plan Revision was held on February 5 at Oakton High School. She thanked George Lovelace for attending. Ms. Malone expressed her appreciation for the staff that worked that evening and stated that they deserved a star. She extended thanks to Irish Grandfield, the Project Manager, Kirk Holley, and to the consultant. Over 200 people participated. The Park Authority attempted to re-educate them and dispel some of the misinformation that was circulating. She again thanked staff for their hard work and thanked Mike Kane for being there.
- Ken Feng thanked staff and Hal Strickland for finding a way to resolve a cash flow problem.
- Frank Vajda announced that Nancy Brumit would be having a hip operation on Thursday, February 12.
- Kevin Fay thanked Kay Rutledge for working on the Potomac School interim agreement. He also thanked the Board for their forbearance in allowing the program to "jump the line", and stated that this would become a good model for working with the community to help solve problems that may not be specifically related to parks, but may help improve parks in the future.
- Ed Batten reported that he had spent an afternoon walking the boardwalk at Huntley Meadows Park with Harry Glasgow in the freezing temperatures along with some very dedicated staff members. He stated that it is a very fascinating place in the wintertime. Mr. Batten explained that the beavers, who maintain the dam structure, are moving downstream and problems are already occurring in a couple of areas. The Park Authority may have to do something about this; however, this may be nature's way of dealing with that environment. It appears that their food source is leaving, and they are following that source.

Huntley Meadows is renowned both nationally and internationally as an exceptional environment for wildlife and birds in particular. Mr. Batten stated that he was quite surprised that as cold as it was there were numerous people walking the boardwalk, some of them carrying very expensive equipment, looking for birds, some of which would not normally appear at this time of year.

Mr. Batten informed the Board that they may be receiving numerous emails and correspondence regarding the beaver leaving the area.

Mr. Batten also noted that he, Frank Vajda, Joanne Malone and Hal Strickland attended the Sports Forum on February 8. Mr. Batten stated that a little girl, about 3'2", was there and that she plays tackle in a football league. Her team went to Florida and won a national championship--and that she was the most valuable player.

- Ms. Kohler had no items.
- Mr. Lovelace, Member-At-Large, reported that he was oriented about the Park Authority by staff on Friday, February 6. He stated that when he left the orientation he had an appetite for an understanding of the Board and had gained some enthusiasm for his appointment because he learned a few things he did not know. He thanked staff for their effort.

Mrs. Shapiro welcomed Mr. Lovelace to the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration and Management Committee

Chairman: Mrs. Heinz

Members: Ms. Malone and Mr. Feng

Staff: Miriam C. Morrison, Division Director for Administration

Mrs. Heinz, chairman of the Administration and Management Committee, reported that the next committee meeting would be announced.

Budget Committee

Chairman: (vacant)

Members: Ms. Malone, and Mr. Feng,

Staff: Miriam C. Morrison, Director, Administration Division

Mrs. Shapiro, chairman ex-officio of the Budget Committee, announced that the next committee meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2004, at 6 p.m.

Planning and Development Committee

Chairman: Mr. Strickland

Members: Mrs. Heinz, Ms. Malone, Ms. Minton, and Messrs. McCutcheon, and Vajda

Staff: Lynn Tadlock, Director, Planning and Development Division

Mr. Strickland, chairman of the Planning and Development Committee announced that the minutes of the February 4, 2004, meeting would be forthcoming. The next committee meeting will be held on March 3, 2004, at 6:30 p.m.

Park Operations Committee

Chairman: Ms. Malone

Members: Mrs. Heinz, and Messrs. McCutcheon, Strickland, and Vajda

Staff: Brian Daly, Director, Park Operations Division

Ms. Malone, Chairman of the Park Operations Committee, reported that copies of the January 7 and February 4, 2004, would be forthcoming. The next committee meeting would be announced.

Resource Management Committee

Chairman: Mr. Feng

Members: Ms. Malone, and Messrs. McCutcheon, and Strickland

Staff: Cindy Messinger, Interim Director, Resource Management Division

Mr. Feng, Chairman of the Resource Management Committee, reported that the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2004, at 4 p.m.

Park Services Committee

Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon

Members: Mrs. Heinz and Mr. Vajda

Staff: Charlie Bittenbring, Acting Director, Park Services Division

Mr. McCutcheon, Chairman of the Park Services Committee, announced that the next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2004, at 5 p.m.

BOARD MATTERS**CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:34 p.m. Mr. Strickland **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board convene in closed session for

- a. Discussion of the acquisition or disposition of real property for a public purpose, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of this public body in the Dranesville District pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2 - 3711(A)(7)
- b. Discussion of Closed Session Minutes of January 28, 2004

The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Mr. Batten; the MOTION was **APPROVED**, Mrs. Heinz being absent.

Mrs. Shapiro announced a short break. There were **NO OBJECTIONS** from the Board. (Mrs. Heinz arrived at 9:40 p.m.)

MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004

Land acquisition matters in the Dranesville District and the Closed Session Minutes were discussed.

At 9:45 p.m. Mrs. Heinz **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board return to Open Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. Strickland. The motion was **APPROVED**.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Heinz certified that, to the best of the Park Authority Board's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia Code 2.2-3712 and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board; Mr. Strickland made the **MOTION**, it was **SECONDED** by Mr. McCutcheon; the motion was **APPROVED**.

ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

C-1 Land Acquisition in the Dranesville District

Mr. Fay **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board direct staff to add the property located in the Dranesville District to the work plan as discussed in Closed Session; **SECONDED** by Mr. Batten. The **MOTION** was **APPROVED**.

C-2 Adoption of Closed Session Minutes - January 28, 2004

Mr. McCutcheon **MOVED** the Park Authority Board approve the Closed Session Minutes dated January 28, 2004; **SECONDED** by Mr. Vajda; the **MOTION** was **APPROVED**, Messrs. Fay and Lovelace abstaining.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mrs. Shapiro announced that there were two new items to add.

Mrs. Heinz, Member-At-Large, reported that she had just returned from the **Laurel Hill** Adaptive Reuse Citizens Task Force meeting and that the Task Force is ready to go to the public on its recommendations for consideration for the reuse of the central maximum security facility, the reformatory and the penitentiary area. The Lorton Art Foundation already has the workhouse. Mrs. Heinz commended John Pitts and Kelly Davis for staying on top of a very challenging situation, as well as Mike Kane. There are two concepts: 1) the use of the 79 acres of the reuse area for residential and retail use, this is not included in the Comprehensive Plan; 2) is a combination of residential, retail and educational use.

The first concept could break even; the second concept could run \$29 million in the red. One of the goals of the Task Force is to come forth with a recommendation that is financially self-sufficient. One of the challenges is trying to develop it within the confines of the site. There are some issues as to what can make the scenario financially viable and there will be some language included in the recommendation that the Task Force is still considering.

Ms. Heinz stated that there will be three public outreach meetings:

February 21 - 9 a.m. at Lorton Station Elementary School Cafeteria in Lorton

February 28 - 9 a.m. at Silverbrook Elementary School Cafeteria in Fairfax Station

March 4 - 7 p.m. at the Government Center in rooms 9/10.

The Task Force will be invited to make a presentation to the Board at a future meeting in March.

Mike Kane reported that the Park Authority's second director, Joe Brown, passed away on October 15, 2003, at the age of 85.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:23 p.m. Mr. McCutcheon **MOVED** that the Park Authority Board meeting be adjourned; **SECONDED** by Mr. Strickland. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Jennifer E. Heinz
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes Approved at Meeting
On February 25, 2004

Michael A. Kane, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES APPROVED FEBRUARY 25, 2004, AS AMENDED
SIGNED MARCH 10, 2004